

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A paint storage apparatus comprising:
 2. a container divided into a plurality of compartments; and
 3. a lid having a plurality of orifices, wherein when the lid is fixed on the container, the orifices are aligned over the compartments, with one of the plurality of orifices over each of the plurality of compartments.
1. 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the container and the lid are substantially cylindrical.
1. 2. 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the container and the lid are substantially circular.
1. 2. 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the container and the lid are substantially square.
1. 2. 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the container and the lid are substantially angular.
1. 6. A container comprising:
 2. a body portion having an open upper end and forming a chamber region;
 3. b. one or more walls dividing the chamber region into a plurality of compartments; and

5 c. a lid having a plurality of orifices configured to align over the
6 compartments, wherein one of the plurality of orifices is over each of the
7 plurality of compartments, and wherein the lid is configured to mate with
8 the plurality of walls so as to create a positive seal.

1 7. The container of claim 6, wherein the container is substantially cylindrical.

1 8. The container of claim 6, wherein the container is substantially circular.

1 9. The container of claim 8, wherein a diameter of the open end is greater than a
2 maximum diameter of the bottom of the container.

1 10. The container of claim 6, wherein the container is substantially square.

1 11. The container of claim 6, wherein the container is substantially angular.

1 12. The container of claim 6, wherein the container is uniformly formed from a
2 homogenous material.

1 13. The container of claim 6, wherein the lid further comprises a tab configured to
2 facilitate removal of the lid from the container.

1 14. The container of claim 6, wherein the container further comprises a cap
2 configured to detachably couple to the lid and prevent spillage and spoilage of
3 paint stored within the container.

- 1 15. The container of claim 6, wherein the lid further comprises a plurality of grooves
- 2 configured to cooperatively engage the lid with the body portion.

- 1 16. A divided paint storage apparatus comprising:
 - 2 a. a cup comprising:
 - 3 i. integrally formed interior walls; and
 - 4 ii. one or more dividers coupled to the interior walls and configured
 - 5 to separate the cup into a plurality of separate chambers configured
 - 6 to store paint; and
 - 7 b. a lid comprising:
 - 8 i. one or more orifices configured to align with the plurality of
 - 9 separate chambers; and
 - 10 ii. one or more guiding means configured to couple with the one or
 - 11 more dividers and to align the one or more orifices with the
 - 12 plurality of separate chambers.

- 1 17. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein a shape of the cup is
- 2 substantially cylindrical.

- 1 18. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein a shape of the cup is
- 2 substantially circular.

- 1 19. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 18, wherein the shape of the cup is
- 2 configured such that a diameter of the top of the cup is greater than a maximum
- 3 diameter of the bottom of the cup.

- 1 20. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein a shape of the cup is
- 2 substantially square.

- 1 21. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein a shape of the cup is
- 2 substantially angular.

- 1 22. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the lid couples to the
- 2 cup through an annular locking structure that frictionally engages so as to create a
- 3 positive seal.

- 1 23. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the one or more guiding
- 2 means couple with the one or more dividers through an annular locking structure
- 3 that frictionally engages so as to create a positive seal.

- 1 24. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the apparatus is
- 2 uniformly formed from a homogenous material.

- 1 25. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 24, wherein the homogenous
- 2 material comprises a polymer resin.

- 1 26. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 24, wherein the homogenous
- 2 material comprises polypropylene.

- 1 27. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 24, wherein the homogenous
- 2 material comprises a liquid impervious plastic material.

28. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the orifices are in a tapered configuration.
29. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the apparatus further comprises a cap configured to detachably couple to the lid and prevent spillage and spoilage of paint stored within the plurality of separate chambers.
30. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 29, wherein the cap further comprises a tab configured to facilitate removal of the cap from the apparatus.
31. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the lid further comprises a tab configured to facilitate removal of the lid from the apparatus.
32. The divided paint storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the bottom of the cup further comprises an annular ring configured to support the apparatus on a surface.
33. An annular paint cup comprising:
 - a. one or more walls contained within the annular paint cup, wherein the one or more walls divide the annular paint cup and define a plurality of paint storage cavities; and
 - b. a lid with a plurality of orifices comprising a planar surface with a top and a bottom, wherein the bottom of the planar surface comprises one or more depending grooves configured to cooperatively engage with the plurality of walls and align the plurality of orifices with the plurality of paint storage cavities.

- 1 34. A divided paint cup comprising;
- 2 a. a container means comprising:
 - 3 i. a main chamber divided by a plurality of inner walls;
 - 4 ii. a plurality of storage cavities defined by the enclosed space
 - 5 between the inner walls and the main chamber and configured for
 - 6 receiving and retaining paint;
- 7 b. a lid comprising:
 - 8 i. an annular base portion and an annular wall joined to the annular
 - 9 base portion;
 - 10 ii. a plurality of groove means coupled to the annular base portion and
 - 11 configured to cooperatively engage with the plurality of inner
 - 12 walls; and
 - 13 iii. a plurality of orifices configured to align with the plurality of
 - 14 storage cavities when the plurality of groove means are
 - 15 cooperatively engaged with plurality of inner walls.
- 1 35. The divided paint cup of claim 34, wherein the main chamber comprises an open
- 2 top and a bottom and is formed by a substantially vertical portion and two arcuate
- 3 portions, wherein the arcuate portions blend into the sidewall portion.
- 1 36. The divided paint cup of claim 34, wherein the lid and the container means further
- 2 comprise an annular locking structure configured to frictionally engage so as to
- 3 create a positive seal.
- 1 37. A divided paint storage apparatus comprising;
- 2 a. integrally formed interior walls; and

3 b. one or more dividers coupled to the interior walls and configured to
4 separate the apparatus into a plurality of separate chambers configured to
5 store paint.

1 38. A method of forming a divided paint cup, comprising the steps of:
2 a. thermoforming plastic into one or more dividing walls with a generally
3 parallel matrix configured into a generally cylindrical shape; and
4 b. thermoforming plastic around the dividing walls and into a generally
5 cylindrical body portion having an open upper end, a rim extending
6 radially outwardly from the perimeter of the open end of said body portion.

1 39. The method of claim 38 further comprising the step of thermoforming plastic into
2 a generally cylindrical lid having a plurality of orifices and a plurality of grooves
3 configured to mate with the plurality of dividing walls.